

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A hand utensil for peeling and pitting a fruit, such as a mango, comprising:
a spoon-shaped bowl having a proximal end and a distal end and defining an axis
5 extending from the proximal end to the distal end, said bowl having a convex surface and
concave surface, and wherein said bowl defines a plurality of slots extending therethrough
and oriented generally perpendicularly to said axis; and
a series of arcuate ridges projecting from the concave surface of the bowl.
2. The hand utensil of claim 1, further comprising a handle and means for engaging the
10 spoon-shaped bowl to the handle.
3. The hand utensil of claim 2, wherein the proximal end of the bowl attaches to or is
formed into a shank that is inserted into a portion of the handle.
4. The hand utensil of claim 1, wherein the slots are elongated and oriented in parallel
relation to one another.
- 15 5. The hand utensil of claim 4, wherein the slots are formed in a lower region of the
concave surface and between the proximal end and the distal end of the bowl.
6. The hand utensil of claim 1, wherein a first arcuate ridge in the series of arcuate ridges
is formed at the distal end of the bowl.
7. The hand utensil of claim 5, wherein a first arcuate ridge in the series of arcuate ridges
20 is formed at the distal end of the bowl.
8. The hand utensil of claim 1, wherein each arcuate ridge of the series of arcuate ridges
is evenly spaced apart from an adjacent arcuate ridge.

9. The hand utensil of claim 1, wherein each arcuate ridge has a radius of curvature, and a center point for such radius of curvature is along the axis of the bowl, and the radius of curvature is between about 2 and 6 cm.

10. The hand utensil of claim 8, wherein the arcuate ridges are spaced apart with a pitch of from 4 to 6 mm.

11. The hand utensil of claim 8, wherein the bowl has an average thickness of between 2 and 4 mm, and the ridges have a depth of cut of from $1/3$ to $1/2$ the thickness of the bowl.

12. The hand utensil of claim 8, wherein the ridges are cut to have a face angle between 5 and 20 degrees as measured from an axis taken perpendicular to the convex surface of the bowl below the ridge.

13. The hand utensil of claim 2, further comprising a retractable knife blade disposed within the handle.